



**Peter McWalters
Commissioner**

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**
Shepard Building
255 Westminister Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Interested Parties

FROM: Peter McWalters, Commissioner of Education

DATE: August 21, 2006

SUBJECT: Supporting the Children of Guard and Reserve Institute Training

The Department of Education is supporting the Rhode Island National Guard's special training session to help educators recognize and deal with issues and problems facing children of deployed servicemen and women. **The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) will conduct the two-day session at the Radisson Hotel Providence Harbor, 220 India Street, Providence on September 27th and 28th from 8:30 am to 4 pm.**

I encourage you to send a representative from the district guidance or other counseling staff as well as a school nurse to this unique training opportunity. The Department of the Army Community and Family Service Center funds the Institute. There is no cost to participants. Guidance counselors, school nurses and social service professionals who deal with children of military families can access registration information at the MCEC website: <http://www.MilitaryChild.org/GuardForm.asp>.

Brigadier General Keith Martin, retired, the Project Manager for MCEC's Guard and Reserve Institute training, said, "Rhode Island Guard and Reserve servicemen and women are deployed in large numbers, serving alongside their Active Component comrades in the Global War on Terror and in disaster relief efforts here at home. These extended call-ups leave 'suddenly military' children on the home front; often in communities and schools far from support networks of major military installations." Martin added, " We greatly appreciate the assistance of the Department of Education, National Guard and the entire Operation Military Kid team in making this training possible. The citizens of Rhode Island can be very proud of their leaders' commitment to doing everything possible to support the children of our deployed servicemen and women.

Attachment

Telephone (401)222-4600 Fax (401)222-6178 TTY 800-745-5555 Voice 800-745-6575

**The Board of Regents does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, sex,
sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, or disability.**



The Military Child Education Coalition's™ **Supporting Children and Families of the National Guard and Reserve Institute®** is a professional development program for educators and professionals to reach out in a support network to the children and families of the National Guard and Reserve. The conference includes two continental breakfasts, two lunches, two break refreshments and conference materials (no registration, meal, or resource material cost to participants). The curriculum, content, process, and delivery are correlated with the National Staff Development Council's Standards and the National Standards for School Counseling Programs.

Dates of Institute: September 27-28, 2006 (training is a two-day session)

Training: Supporting Children and Families of the National Guard and Reserve Institute®

Location: Radisson Hotel Providence Harbor
220 India Street
Providence, RI 02903
401-272-5577

Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm (registration and continental breakfast at 8:00 am)

Deadline for registration: September 20, 2006 Register on line at
<http://www.militarychild.org/GuardForm.asp>

Cost: None - your registration fee, materials and conference meals (\$140) are covered by MCEC™.

For your information, educational credits are available. Fees are to be paid at the G&R Institute.
1.2 Continuing Education Credit costs \$75.00, branch of Texas A & M University
1 Graduate Credit costs \$175.00, branch of Texas A & M University

Name: _____
(Used for name badge, PLEASE PRINT legibly)

Title/Assignment: _____

District & School Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email address: _____

Register on line at <http://www.militarychild.org/GuardForm.asp> **or fax registration to 254-953-1925,**
Attn: Linda Neault.

For more information about the Supporting Children and Families of the National Guard and Reserve Institute®, please contact Linda Neault at 254-953-1923 or Linda.Neault@MilitaryChild.org